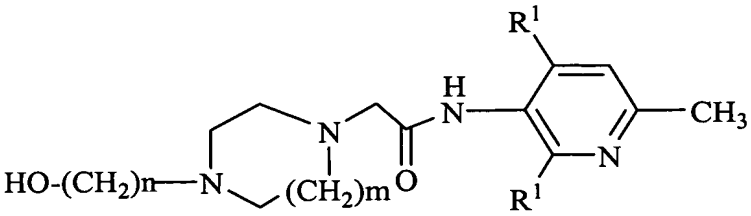
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

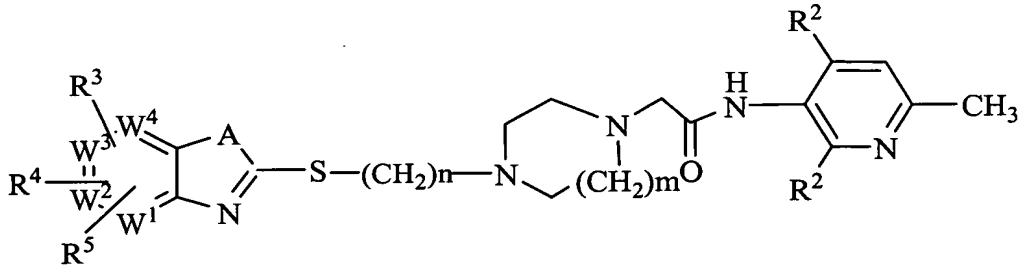
Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hydroxyalkyl cyclic diamine compound represented by the following formula (1):



(1)

~~(wherein~~ wherein R^1 denotes a halogen atom, m is 1 or 2, and n is an integer of 1 to ~~6).~~ 6.

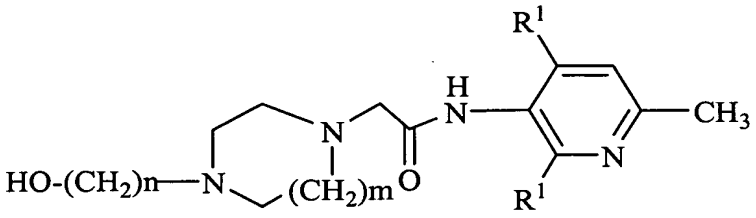
Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a cyclic diamine derivative represented by the following formula (5) or a salt thereof:



(5)

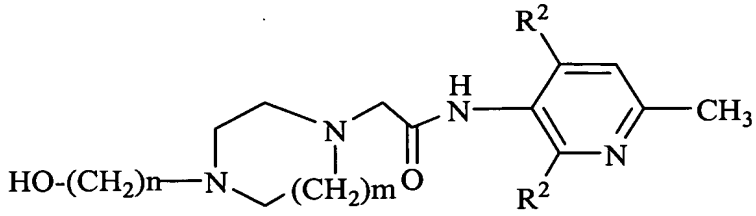
~~(wherein~~ wherein A denotes NH, an oxygen atom, or a sulfur atom; wherein each of W^1 to W^4 denotes CH or any one of the W^1 to W^4 denotes a nitrogen atom while the other three of W^1 to W^4 deonte CH, R^2 denotes a lower alkylthio group, a mono- or di-lower-alkylamino group, a cyclic amino group, a lower alkoxy group, a halo-lower alkoxy group, or a lower alkoxy lower alkoxy group, and each of R^3, R^4, and R^5 denotes a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a lower alkyl group, a lower alkoxy group, a lower alkoxycarbonyl group, a

halo-lower alkyl group, a halo-lower alkoxy group, a lower alkoxy lower alkyl group, a lower alkoxy lower alkoxy group, a hydroxy lower alkyl group, a hydroxy lower alkoxy group, a lower alkylcarbonyl group, a lower alkylthio group, a lower alkylsulfinyl group, a lower alkylsulfonyl group, a nitro group, or a cyano group, m is 1 or 2, and n is an integer of 1 to ~~6)~~ 6, ~~characterized in that the method comprises~~ comprising reacting a hydroxyalkyl cyclic diamine compound represented by the following formula (1):



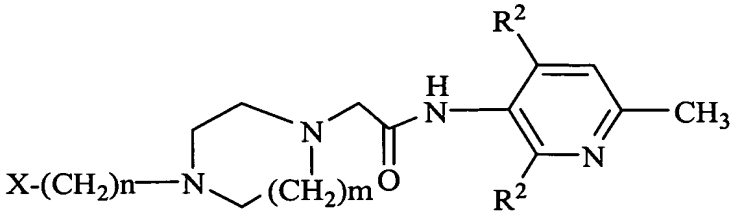
(1)

~~(wherein~~ wherein R^1 denotes a halogen atom, and each of m and n has the same meaning as defined ~~above)~~ above with R^2H ~~(wherein~~ wherein R^2 has the same meaning as defined ~~above)~~ above, to ~~thereby~~ form a compound represented by the following formula (2):



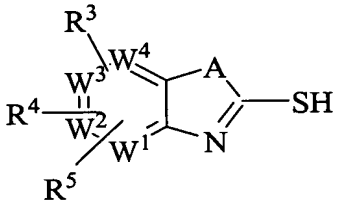
(2)

~~(wherein~~ wherein each of R^2, m, and n has the same meaning as mentioned above ~~above)~~; transforming the hydroxyl group of the compound represented by formula (2) into a leaving group, to thereby form a compound represented by the following formula (3):



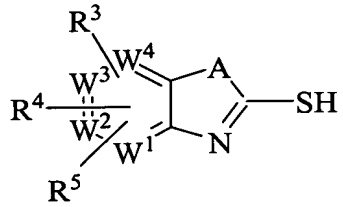
(3)

~~(wherein~~ wherein X denotes a leaving group, and each of R^2, m, and n has the same meaning as defined ~~above)~~ above; and reacting the compound (3) with a thiol derivative represented by the following formula (4):



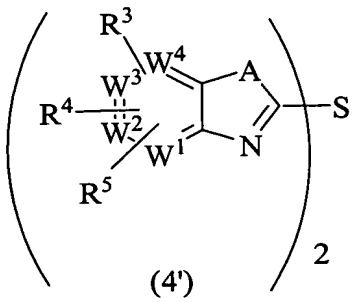
(4)

~~(wherein~~ wherein each of A, W^1 to W^4, R^3, R^4, and R^5 has the same meaning as defined ~~above)~~ above, or reacting the compound (2) with a thiol derivative represented by the following formula (4) or (4'):



(4)

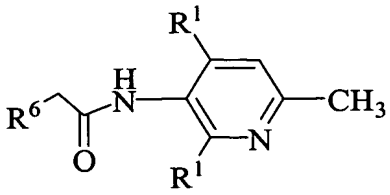
or



(4')

~~(wherein~~ wherein each of A, W^1 to W^4, and R^3 to R^5 has the same meaning as defined ~~above)~~ above in the presence of a phosphorus ~~k~~ compound.

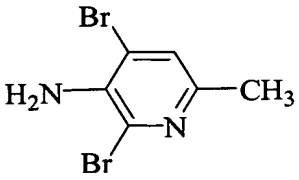
Claim 3 (Currently Amended): An acetamide compound represented by the following formula (6):



(6)

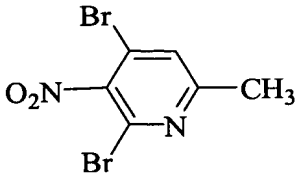
~~(wherein~~ wherein each of R^1 and R^6, which may be identical to or different from each other, denotes a halogen ~~atom)~~ atom.

Claim 4 (Original): 3-Amino-2, 4-dibromo-6-methylpyridine represented by the following formula (7a).



(7a)

Claim 5 (Original): 2, 4-Dibromo-6-methyl-3-nitropyridine represented by the following formula (24).



(24)